

REMARKS

The abstract and specification have been amended in order to correct grammatical and idiomatic errors contained therein. The undersigned hereby certifies, to the best of his knowledge and belief, that the amended abstract and specification contain no new matter.

The claims have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically speaking, Claims 1-16 have been canceled and replaced by newly presented Claims 17-20. Newly presented Claim 17 contains the subject matter of originally presented Claims 1 and 11. No new matter has been added.

Claims 14-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the currently presented claims are clearly cured of all formal defects.

Claims 14-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 101. It is respectfully submitted that the currently presented claims clearly comply with the requirements of 35 USC 101.

Claims 1 and 12-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Switall. Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection and urge reconsideration in light of the following comments.

The presently claimed invention is directed to a liquid spray unit for spraying and applying a liquid onto a moving body. The spray unit comprises a spray tube provided with one spray nozzle for reciprocatingly traveling in a width direction of the moving body and spraying the liquid and an air box provided with an airflow discharge port for discharging an airflow and arranged with respect to the spray tube such that the discharged air flow accelerates the sprayed liquid towards the moving body. It is respectfully submitted that the presently claimed structure is not shown by the prior art cited by the Examiner.

The Switall reference discloses a spray dampening system for offset printing. The system controls the application of dampening fluid to the ink roll or offset plate on a plate cylinder of an offset printing press through the use of pressure involving adjustment mechanisms. The fluid is discharged through a plurality of spray nozzles controlled by a plurality of solenoid-actuated valves. However, this reference does not disclose the provision of a spray tube provided with one spray nozzle for reciprocatingly traveling in a width direction of a moving body. As such, the presently claimed invention clearly is patentably distinguishable over this reference.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the present application and to pass it to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Encl: Replacement Abstract  
Clean Substitute Specification  
Marked-Up Substitute Specification  
Postal Card

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